

# **DOE Special Medical Care Program in the Republic of the Marshall Islands**

## **Patient Referral Procedure**

### **I. Patient seen during Clinic: (Not life threatening condition)**

#### **A. If DOE patient and condition is possibly radiation related:**

##### **1. DOE Physician determines that referral is needed:**

- a. DOE Physician/Nurse Coordinator sends e-mail to Principal Investigators (PI) with a cc to Director of Clinical Operations/Program Coordinator. If clarification is needed then PI will contact DOE Physician via telephone. Program Coordinator will follow-up and notify the DOE PHYSICIAN within 24 hours of receipt of e-mail of referral decision.**
- b. If referral to Honolulu (or locally in the Continental United States) is deemed necessary then Director of Clinical Operations/Program Coordinator will notify Bechtel (Hawaii) in order to coordinate transfer of patient.**
- c. If referral to Kwajalein Hospital or other facility within the RMI is deemed necessary then Nurse Coordinator will notify Bechtel (Kwajalein) in order to coordinate transfer of patient.**
- d. Director of Clinical Operations notifies the 177 Health Care Program (177), Marshall Islands Social Security Agency (MISSA) and appropriate referral committee members that DOE will be referring patient off-island to determine if condition is radiation related.**

- ##### **2. If, after the initial consultation, the referred patient is found to have a non-radiation related illness, then the Program Coordinator will notify the Director of Clinical Operations who will in turn notify 177 and MISSA and the appropriate referral committee members with regards to assuming the cost of continued care of the patient.**

#### **B. If DOE patient and condition is not radiation related:**

##### **1. DOE PHYSICIAN determines that referral is necessary:**

- a. DOE PHYSICIAN/Nurse Coordinator contacts 177 program and/or MISSA and refers patient to them.**

#### **C. If Non-DOE patient:**

- 1. DOE PHYSICIAN determines that referral is necessary:**
  - a. DOE PHYSICIAN/Nurse Coordinator contacts 177 program and/or MISSA and refers patient to them.**

**II. RMI physician/Health Aide “calls” and says patient needs a referral:**

**A. If DOE patient:**

- 1. DOE PHYSICIAN asks patient to come to Clinic (if patient is on island – Majuro or Ebeye) and makes determination as to whether or not patient needs a referral then follows steps I.A or I.B above.**
- 2. If patient is on outer island, DOE PHYSICIAN triages patient via radio and makes determination as to whether or not patient needs a referral then follows steps I.A or I.B above.**

**B. If Non-DOE patient:**

- 1. DOE PHYSICIAN refers patient to 177 program and/or MISSA.**

**III. Patient comes in during Annual Screening:**

- A. Same as steps I.A or I.B. above.**

**IV. If life threatening:**

- A. Go to closest Medical Facility. Notify Director of Clinical Operations/Program Coordinator and/or 177/MISSA as appropriate. If non-radiogenic condition, DOE does not cover the cost.**